



PRESS RELEASE

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CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNSEL BECOMES MEMBER OF NEPOOL EFFECTIVE 2/1/02

At the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL) participants meeting held in Boston on Friday, December 7, 2001, the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) was approved, effective February 1, 2002, as a member. Formed in 1971, the New England Power Pool is a voluntary association of entities that are engaged in the electric power business in New England. The NEPOOL members include investor-owned electric utility systems, municipal and consumer-owned systems, joint marketing agencies, power marketers, load aggregators, generation owners and end users.

OCC will be representing Connecticut's electric consumers. "Our membership in NEPOOL gives Connecticut's electric consumers a voice at a very important table. Increasingly, actions at NEPOOL affect rates, reliability, supply and other issues of great importance to our electric consumers," said Mary Healey, the Consumer Counsel.

Connecticut's Office of Consumer Counsel joins Consumer Advocates from Maine and New Hampshire in furthering energy consumer interests at NEPOOL.